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of National Defense to the state councils, would have to be worked out in further detail in each state to fit its peculiar conditions, which would probably involve a conference or "war congress" of the leaders in sanitation and medicine in each state, including especially the state department of health and the state committee of the Medical Section. Further, it is probable that in these recommendations the National Council will call for a campaign which will involve: first, direct and indirect pressure to secure better health facilities in localities where these are notably deficient; second, the federation in each community, through a "local health congress" under the community council, of all agencies, public and private, which touch the health and welfare of the people, in order to arrange for the maximum utilization of their facilities and to popularize these facilities; and, finally, the education of individual citizens in the reason why it is patriotic to keep well and how to do so. In so far as the resulting activities of state and local councils of defense prevent disease, they would have a vital, if indirect, bearing on all relief work. In so far as community councils of defense, in carrying out the public health program, bring together all agencies working with the people in each neighborhood, where at present they waste effort like a badly meshed grinder, they would point the way for one of the most important developments in relief work.

HEALTH AND RECREATION

By MRS. PHILIP NORTH MOORE,

Chairman, Department of Health and Recreation, Woman's Committee, Council of National Defense.

Another department of the Woman's Committee pertaining to war conditions of the camps and surrounding communities, is that of Safe-guarding Moral and Spiritual Forces, the health and recreation of the soldiers. The Woman's Committee recognized the need of protective work in and around the camps before the War Commission on Training Camp Activities was appointed, writing to President Wilson, urging him to use his authority in regard to the sale of liquor and moral protection from the resorts of the towns,—

writing also to the Secretaries of War and Navy, who in each case assured us everything possible would be done.

Section 13 of the Army Bill authorized the Secretary of War, and directed him, to do everything by him deemed necessary to suppress and prevent houses of ill fame within such distance as seemed to him needful of any military camp, station, fort, post, cantonment, training or mobilization place. The further authorization was so drastic that it covered every possible item from sale or supply of intoxicating liquors to rules and regulations for fines and imprisonment. The Secretary recognized his responsibility and determined that the training camps as well as the surrounding zones should not be places of temptation and peril. He realized, however, that he could not obtain the conditions necessary to the health and vitality of the soldiers without the full coöperation of the cities and towns near which the camps were located, or through which the soldiers would pass.

His first appointment to carry out this authority was the Commission on Training Camp Activities, to advise in regard to questions relating to the moral hazards in training centers, as well as to the promotion of rational recreation facilities within and without the camps. This same authority was given to the Secretary of the Navy, who appointed practically the same commission for the naval training camps. Upon the appointment of Raymond B. Fosdick as head of the Commission on Training Camp Activities of War and Navy, representatives were appointed for the training camps only, about thirty-two in number, in sixteen states. At this time, the Woman's Committee decided that this department should coöperate in every way with the authorities having access to the camps, and that the chairmen in the states should ascertain, and become familiar with, all agencies in the community interested in the camps. The state councils of defense were asked to appoint committees in states where there were no training camps, and the chairmen of this department of the Woman's Committee exercised large authority in such communities.

The authorized organizations working *within* the camps were the Young Men's Christian Association, the Knights of Columbus, theatre and division directors, libraries, athletic aids and song leaders. In all of these activities the chairmen of this department were the trained and experienced workers, called upon to furnish

entertainments, to furnish supplies for the hospitals, to care for the libraries and hostess houses of the Young Women's Christian Association and to give lessons in French. There is a message of reassurance in the fact that the boys being drafted are going to find not only decent, clean conditions in the camps, but conditions that educate and inspire.

It is, however, with the organizations working *outside* the camps that the women of the community are equally effective. Women have been a conserving power in civilization through all the ages, and now that war is working its tremendous destruction, it becomes the peculiar function of women to prevent the destruction of the moral and spiritual forces of our nation. New temptations are upon us. The men who are defending us in the army and navy must of necessity change their habits of life fundamentally. Many elements in the new life are conducive to the most healthful and vigorous growth. Other conditions are of necessity abnormal. Men are suddenly removed from the usual companionship of the women of their own families and circle of friends. They are removed from the institution which has ministered to their spiritual needs, and the readjustment to these conditions is attended with special danger, because those who gain from the intemperance and vice of others are ready to make trade of the empty time of our men under arms. The hand of the law is strong to prevent the evil, but at best the law can surround our men with a neutral atmosphere. It rests with good people, and in no small measure with good women, to create an atmosphere conducive to moral and spiritual growth.

A large field of usefulness for the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense is in the non-camp cities. There is a tendency on the part of girls to wish to go to the camp cities to spend their summer vacation or to go to the camp cities to work in order to be near the soldiers. The Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense aids in the non-camp cities in keeping the girls from going to the camp cities unless there is necessity. Whatever is done to help the girls in the non-camp cities to have the right attitude toward the soldiers and to think in terms of what they can do to be really helpful to the men and to their country, will help all of the work which the War Camp Community Service is trying to do in the camp cities.

The work of this department is threefold, recreational, preven-

tive and remedial. The first general form of work was to provide entertainments in the camps, consisting of musicals, movies, dramatic readings, vaudeville, lectures, etc., at regular intervals during the week or month. Homes were canvassed for lists of hostesses for the entertainment of soldiers on Sundays and holidays. The community organization work is that of interpreting the adjacent community to the boys in camp, and of interpreting the life of the soldier to the citizens. Every person in the community is vitally concerned, for the presence of these soldiers at their gates is bound to react on the community in some way. If the responsibility is met by constructive community effort to absorb the men, as individuals, it will not only function patriotically in helping to build a valiant army, but will also protect the community and its people.

In every state where camps of soldiers are in training the Woman's Committee has grappled with the problems created. First, there is the problem of hospitality. What will be practical and acceptable for them to undertake? One of our correspondents classifies this hospitality into retail and wholesale. The former consists of inviting the boys into the homes, taking them on motor drives, and furnishing them healthful amusements and wholesome company. Wholesale hospitality is defined as that undertaken by the big organizations where soldiers and sailors are invited en masse to lectures, entertainments or dinners.

As soon as the North Carolina Division of the Woman's Committee learned that there was to be a cantonment of some sixty thousand men near Charlotte, they at once began to lay their plans to coöperate with the city authorities in making the camp what they would desire it to be. The State Chairman wrote that the Committee on Safeguarding Moral and Spiritual Forces had been most active in arranging with all the women's organizations of the community to provide entertainment for the soldiers. They arranged that every organization in the town should adopt or stand sponsor for one company of men, furnishing them with amusements, magazines and books, inviting them to church and to dinner, opening their club or society rooms to them and in every way possible surrounding them with wholesome and friendly influences. The Committee Chairman wrote that the women were planning to be just as attentive to the soldiers who came to them as strangers from New England as they were to their own boys, and she added, "we expect that strangers will do the same for our boys."

Certainly Massachusetts reciprocated this thoughtfulness. A special committee from the women's colleges provided club houses and homes outside the camp. Their purpose was to have as many of these homes as possible where soldiers would find recreation, friendly interest and refined surroundings; the kind of homes from which the majority of them had come. Each home was provided for by a separate college group, either alumnae, undergraduates, or both, and each had a college "mother." The college mother was permanent or as nearly so as possible, but the helpers varied from week to week. A few gave their services in the home itself and others provided the things needed to make the home attractive—furnishings, games, books, pianos, victrolas. Such an undertaking was particularly practicable in the case of the reserve officer training camps made up largely of college men. With modifications to suit local needs the plan has been worked out to advantage in connection with many camps.

A helpful camp service in which many of our state divisions coöperated was that undertaken by the American Library Association. It organized committees to collect and distribute reading matter in the training camps and even prepared to put up libraries in some of the camps. The Missouri Division took hold of this work with particular zest, giving the matter wide publicity, and arranging for the collection of books at local libraries throughout the states. It even planned to furnish boxes of the proper dimensions in which to pack the books collected. Several of the groups of women involved have reëchoed the word laid down by the Library Association, that only worthwhile books are wanted. "Give the boys the best. They want good fiction. They are keen for scientific books and periodicals. They want everything you can give them about war, about sports, they want the news of the world."

Where soldiers are temporarily camped in a town, or where they are travelling, one much appreciated attention is the supervision of the food which they receive. This was managed very well by the Woman's Committee in Grand Rapids, Michigan. They responded immediately not only to the call of furnishing good wholesome amusements for the boys mobilized at their gates, but during the two weeks when the camp of eight hundred boys was at Grand Rapids they furnished the meals. The different days of the week were assigned to various organizations, so that while hundreds of

women were engaged in the feeding of the soldiers, no one group was in constant service. In the two weeks the women furnished 1300 meals, including breakfasts, dinners and suppers. They did it so economically that from the allotment of twenty-five cents per head a meal, they had a surplus to go into the mess fund of the Grand Rapids Battalion. The boys were satisfied, for when the camp broke up praise came to the women from all sides for the catering they had done.

Of all the problems presented in war camp communities, none is more fundamental in working out a community program than that of giving to the girls a feeling of their personal responsibility in helping to win the war and in making our men fit for service. The committee on protective work for girls has endeavored to secure not only adequate protection, but helpful and stimulating activity in entertainments.

Many people ask why War Camp Community Service is emphasizing at this time work for girls rather than for boys. Our reply is that the girls and women of America have a part to play in winning the war, the importance of which cannot be estimated. The moral standard of a nation, whether at war or in time of peace, can be no higher than that of its women. Upon the attitude of the girl towards the soldier will depend his attitude towards her. The girl must feel her individual responsibility.

Working through all available machinery the girls and young women of America have been offered channels of expression for their patriotic impulses, means for increasing their efficiency, opportunities for making the community a better place in which to live, through fostering the spirit which community singing, pageants and a broader community social life create. America's girls must not only *feel* that they count; they *must* count in the world struggle.

The War Camp Community Service under Mr. Fosdick has made this patriotic work of great value, and in asking for assistance from this committee he said: "Wherever there is a trained and experienced worker in the community will you see that she is in touch with the War Camp Service? It will be helpful if it is understood that the Girls' Committee is free to turn to the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense for assistance and moral support whenever it is needed."

A survey was accordingly conducted by the chairmen of this

department in twenty-one states of places of entertainment in camp vicinities. These included public amusement places, such as dance halls, moving picture shows, restaurants, theatres, etc., the licensing of the same, the inspection by police officers, sanitary arrangements, sale of liquor, etc. They have been ready with this information in most helpful coöperation. Every sort of natural relation should be established. Churches should make the soldiers of their respective denominations feel, not only that they are welcome, but that they are members of whom active participation is desired. Social occasions where the soldiers will meet girls and women under natural and wholesome conditions are especially important. Officers and men are asked to receptions, dances, outings and parties of all sorts. If a regiment has a good band or glee club it is asked to give a concert.

The public resources of the community are placed at the disposal of officers and men. Playgrounds, gymnasiums and swimming pools are open to them. Libraries, museums and other public buildings extend their Saturday afternoon hours and are open Sunday—the soldiers' one day off. Recreation centers are utilized for their entertainment and for entertainments given by them. To all public places the uniform should be a ticket of admission. The city often takes part by furnishing official receptions for the soldiers thereby showing that the community has faith in them, and by organizing community singing on an inspiring scale (a matter to which the commission is devoting especial attention).

The responsibility placed upon the committees and upon all the citizens is very great, but it is one which we believe will be met as it has never been met before in the history of military camps. And the opportunity is commensurate to the responsibility. The first victories of our war can be won right here at home by the citizens, and largely by the women of those communities to which has been entrusted the high responsibility of testifying the country's hospitality to its defenders. In many large camp cities the Woman's Committee has organized soldiers' and sailors' clubs, of great variety in entertainment, reading matter, quarters for furlough needs, etc. Members of the same communities have opened clubs, athletic associations, swimming pools and gymnasiums to the men.

Women police and protective officers are established in twenty

states, and the experience has been uniformly satisfactory. They are appointed in some cases by the police boards, which appointment brings them directly under political influence: this has not been, however, so much of a menace as was feared. The better appointments, under present camp conditions, have come from the mayors and boards of public welfare in cities near the camps. The women have been found to be courageous and cool in time of danger, and endowed with tact and discretion. They are and should be women of the highest type in character and position, and ready to serve without thought of reward.

When the Connecticut troops were mobilized in temporary camps in New Haven, Niantic and about New London, a survey was made which revealed conditions of temptation in the communities about the camps and also the undesirable mingling of objectionable women with the soldiers in the camp grounds. Following the receipt of the survey of Connecticut conditions, Mr. Fosdick, of the Committee on Training Camp Activities, sent a representative to New London. The result of careful and intensive work in New London has been evidenced by an effort on the part of the police force to improve conditions.

Later a statement regarding camp conditions with reference to morals was made to the Chairman of the State Council of Defense and a resolution was adopted calling upon the State Council of Defense to appropriate the salaries of five police-women for duty in and about the military camps and naval stations. The police-women were given authority by the Department of State Police, and the first commission given to Dr. Valeria Parker, Chairman of this department for Connecticut. Through the police-women a number of undesirable girls and women were taken into custody from the camps, and numerous home investigations made. An effort was made to handle each case individually.

A survey of institutions willing to take mothers and their babies following confinement was made with a view to being prepared for a possible increase in illegitimacy.

Following a request from the New England Travelers' Aid Society, a local Travelers' Aid group was organized in each town for the purpose of acting as a bureau of information and advice for girls and women intending to visit Camp Devens, at Ayer, Massachusetts. The Department recommended remedial work in con-

nection with authorities around the camps, such as judges and women probation officers of the juvenile court, women physicians, men and women of the community and other agencies; that local and state agencies be utilized such as municipal and state farms; that each case be considered as far as possible individually; that agencies for the care of young mothers should be utilized, such as maternity and Florence Crittenton homes.

The Social Hygiene Division of the Commission on Training Camp Activities is sending out lecturers and weekly bulletins, and the coöperation on the part of the chairmen of this department has been very satisfactory.

For the first time in history America's boys are being sent to fight in Europe; for the first time in history means are being taken to safeguard them morally and socially. We are proud that the scandals of former wars relating to disease in camps are now nearly eradicated. We are more proud that in this war our boys are being saved from the scandals of both physical and moral disease; that we shall see them return as fit to fight the battles of life as they are to fight the battles of liberty and democracy.

MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES

BY MRS. PHILIP NORTH MOORE,

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The Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense has planned and carried out certain lines of war work which might well be called "Relief Work under War Conditions." The department, Maintenance of Existing Social Service Agencies, was established for the purpose of maintaining the same standards of service activities during war time that have existed during peace; the conserving of the agencies that operate to maintain public morals, public health and the producing forces of the community.

We emphasized the President's statement urging the importance of keeping the full force and efficiency of all the agencies for social work, and of securing for all of them adequate support, in view of